



Appliances

Why Trade Matters

INDUSTRY SECTOR REPORT

General information on

exports. In 2000, the United States exported \$6.1 billion in household and commercial appliances to more than 150 countries around the world.

Market development.

Canada, Mexico, western Europe, and Japan currently are the leading markets for U.S. appliance exports. Future growth is expected as incomes rise in developing markets such as Latin

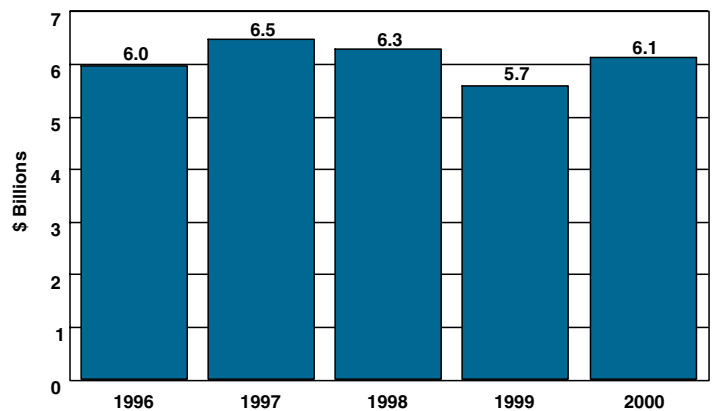
America.

Tariffs. Appliance tariffs range as high as 8 percent for most industrialized countries but are generally much higher for developing countries. For example, these tariffs range from 19–29 percent in Argentina, 16–32 percent in Brazil, 8 percent in Chile, and 10–20 percent in Colombia.

Nontariff barriers. Restrictive product standards in some countries can act as a nontariff barrier for the household appliance industry.

Small and medium-sized enterprises. In 1998, there were more than 5,000 small and medium-sized exporters of appliances and miscellaneous machines in the United States. These firms accounted for more than 84 percent of the sector's exporters and more than 27 percent of exports.

U.S. Exports of Appliances,
1996–2000





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Employment opportunities. Approximately 141,300 workers are employed by appliance manufacturers. Employment has remained relatively level in recent years.

Research and development. The prolonged economic growth of the 1990s produced a demand for premium appliances with specialized features. U.S. firms are leading the way with new technology to revolutionize the appliance industry and bring upgraded products into the home.

Energy efficiency. The industry also is participating in such energy efficiency programs as the voluntary Energy Star labeling program.

Key producing states. Arkansas, Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Kentucky, Missouri, North Carolina, Ohio, South Carolina, Tennessee, Wisconsin

The sector. This sector includes household and commercial refrigerators, freezers, hair dryers, washing machines and dryers, ovens, microwaves, hair clippers, and a variety of other electronic appliances.

BENEFITS AND EFFECTS FROM PREVIOUS TRADE AGREEMENTS:

- The benefits of NAFTA can be found in the household and commercial appliance sector. Canada and Mexico account for more than 60 percent of U.S. exports in this industry.